

Wichita is said to have 16,000 in habitants.

An occupation tax is talked of at Girard.

There are 6,000 volumes in the Clay Center library.

Atlanta is the name of a new town in Cowley county.

Reno county is about to erect a bridge at a cost of \$2,400.

There are one hundred houses in course of erection at El Dorado.

A company has been organized to bore for coal at Wellington.

Ashtland has been elected temporary county seat of Clark county.

Burlington is to have a new school house at a cost of \$3,500.

A military band has been organized at Mound City, Linn county.

Douglas county is indebted to the city of Lawrence about \$40,000.

Washington is going to erect a new school house at a cost of \$8,800.

The money invested in school property in Clay county is \$117,291.

President Cleveland may visit this state in September or October.

There are 2,502 foreigners in Clay county and only 215 negroes.

There are 126.72 miles of railroad in Sumner county, valued at \$832,050.91.

Belleville, Republic county, a city of about 700 people, talks of water works.

Kingman wants to vote bonds to the amount of \$7,000 to erect school houses.

The erection of the Linn county court house has been commenced at Mound City.

Simon Wallen of Sumner county, was arrested at Harper, charged with horse stealing.

The merchants of Winfield have all agreed to close their place of business at 7:30 p. m.

Dunn's Commercial Agency, of New York City, have established a branch at Wichita.

The other day a Leavenworth boy, graduated at West Point, at the head of his class.

The erection of the Republic county court house has been commenced at Belleville.

For one month the fees of the probate judge of Sumner county on liquor opposition was \$3.33.

A desperate gang of thieves are at work in Wichita. All efforts to drive them out have as yet failed.

James Wilson, a teamster, of Garnett, Anderson county, dropped dead a few days ago. Heart disease.

The Marshall county fair association are putting about \$1,200 worth of improvements on their grounds.

The personal property valuation of Oage county is \$78,988. Of Burlingame, in the same county, it is \$69,960.

A brick yard is a new establishment at Saratoga, Pratt county. Minneska is the name of a new town in Pratt county.

The city council of Arkansas City has ordained that domestic fowls shall not run at large from March to November.

Clay Center Times: There are 462,043 rods of wire fence in this county, or about 1,450 miles. This would make a fourteen wire fence entirely around the county with a little to spare.

O. P. Pool probably fatally injured Samuel Don at Medicine Lodge, Barber county, by striking him on the head with a shovel. The trouble was occasioned by a difference of opinion over some petty matter.

W. C. Maston, a hardware merchant of Oneida, made an assignment for the benefit of creditors. His liabilities are \$3,631.26 assets, a stock of hardware and farm implements, value not given. There are 36 creditors in amounts from \$12.45 to \$1,120.

During a storm a few days ago the barn of C. Constant, five miles north of Solomon, was struck by lightning and burned, with its contents. A lot of harness, farming implements, corn, hay, millet, etc. The total loss was about \$10,000 and the insurance is about \$4,400.

Considerable excitement exists in Silverdale township, Cowley county, over what is thought to be a rich mineral discovery. Some parties were sinking a well, and at a depth of about forty feet they struck a hard substance which very much resembled silver ore. Work on the well was immediately stopped, and a mining shaft sunk. The ore has not yet been assayed, but it has the appearance of silver in it.

Mr. S. A. Fenton, living in Dickinson county, sixteen miles west of Junction City, died from the kick of a horse. He and a son had been plowing corn, and at noon drove the teams to the stable. As they neared the stable the son saw his father shake the lines over the team, and when he approached found his father lying on the ground. He had a wound on the breast and one on the arm. He lived a half an hour after he was found, but he never spoke.

John M. Garvey, of Independence, visited Atchison and put up at the Byram. On retiring in the evening he did that which he should not do—blew out the gas. In the morning he awoke with a head on him like a hoghead, but was discovered in time to be carried from the room in an insensible condition. He seemed utterly astonished when informed of the cause of the attack, having never even heard of such a thing as gas.

The transom and the windows of his room were closed, but very fortunately for Mr. Garvey the ceiling was high, and the gas was only partially turned on; otherwise his sleep would have continued for several centuries.

STOCK NOTES.

Items gleaned from the Kansas Press Appertaining to Stock and Stock Raising.

They are selling two-year-old short-horn bulls at Caldwell for \$50.

One man in Phillips county has marketed 400 fleeces of wool this week. Pretty good for sheep raising in that county.

Wichita Beacon: Wm. Rosenstiel, sold eight car loads of fat steers at Kansas City last week, for which he received the sum of \$7,593.55. It is the cattle men who will make the money this year.

Hutchinson Interior Herald: J. H. Parker, brought in nineteen months old, Poland-China hogs, eleven months old, the other day, that averaged three hundred and twenty-two pounds. He got three dollars and thirty cents a hundred for them. It pays to raise good stock.

Lawrence Herald: Sheriff Carman sold his pacing mare, Midnight, to Mr. A. P. Clarke, for the sum of \$1,800. This seems like a big price for a filly, but Midnight is one of the fastest animals ever raised in this country. She has only been on the track a short time, but will doubtless become one of the fastest animals in the west.

Jetmore Reiville: Some of the cattle of the Comanche pool have been shipped to Montana this week. There were about 40,000 head of cattle in this pool, but about one-half of this number will be removed to other parts and the remaining half will be confined to the leased lands of the pool in the Indian territory. The incoming granger is what's the matter.

Gaylord Herald: Last Monday a large Poland-China sow, owned by D. S. Roberts & Son, proprietors of the Gaylord mills, gave birth to eleven pigs, eight of which were provided with four fully developed ears each, but no eyes or any form of mark of eyes whatever, two with the usual number of ears, but with no eyes, and one with three ears and one eye on the lower jaw. Ten of the pigs died within a few hours, and the eleventh, which was alive at last report, possessed but little vitality and would probably die.

Burlingame Chronicle: The question has been asked us, "will the prices of hogs go lower than at present?" We know but little about the hog business. Our notion, however, is that hogs are already lower than they ought to be. One reason for the decline seems to be "over production." Chicago and some other important pork centers have had a phenomenal increase in receipts for some time. To be sure there is no positive assurance that this condition of things will not maintain throughout the season as there still remains a large amount of corn in the country. It is worthy of note, however, that some of the Chicago dealers are rating pork and lard a little higher for July than June. This would seem to indicate better prices for pork at a very early date.

Larned Optic: Mr. John Scott, who lives seven miles northwest of this city, has within the last few days lost two valuable cows from some disease resembling in many of its features pleuro pneumonia, but which is probably an aggravated form of blackleg. The first to die was perfectly well in the morning, and when milked showed no signs of disease, but died before night. The next was well in the morning and died before noon. The death of the first animal attracted no particular attention, but the second dying so suddenly and so soon after the first—the first dying on Tuesday and the second on Thursday—caused Mr. Scott to institute an investigation, which resulted in the discovery that the gall was considerably enlarged, and the lungs and heart badly affected, both these latter organs being blood-shot and showing large black spots similar in character and general appearance to those represented upon the heart and lungs of animals that have died with pleuro pneumonia.

Marion Record: Mr. Brewerton, returned from Kentucky last week where he had purchased a bull which has few if any equals in the state. He is a massive fellow, weighing twenty-three or twenty-four hundred pounds, and has weighed twenty-seven hundred. This magnificent animal—Cordelia's duke—has a pedigree which is "straight" throughout. His dam—Cordelia second—traces her "genealogy" back to the great imported Rose of Sharon, of the Bates duchess tribe—belongs, as all stockmen know, to the "first families." The account of prices this family of stock has brought is marvelous. Mr. Renick the brew owner of the animal purchased by Mr. Brewerton, paid \$6,000 and has refused \$16,000 for the fourth duke of Geneva—the sire of this new Marion county acquisition. One of his offsprings—the second duke of Oneida—sold for \$12,000, and another—the seventh duke of Oneida—sold for \$10,000; and a number of his calves have been sent to England.

GRAND ARMY PICKUPS.

Particulars Pertaining to the Posts.

A camp of the sons of veterans is to be established at Thayer.

There are 166 old soldiers in the city of Wellington as shown by the recent census.

The total number of ex-soldiers in Jefferson county, as enrolled by the township assessors, is 1,060.

The veterans of the 21st Senatorial District are perfecting arrangements to hold their annual district reunion.

In the National cemetery, at Ft. Scott, 428 soldiers whose names and regiments are known, and 146 whose graves are unmarked, lie buried.

A camp of the sons of veterans has been established at Stafford, Stafford county. It is said to be in a prosperous condition and began its existence with a membership of fifteen.

Independence Tribune: John Mountain, of Drum Creek, is one of the old soldiers whose increasing disabilities cause him to appreciate a recent increase in his pension from \$6 to \$24 per month.

Wichita Eagle: At the muster of the camp of the Sons of Veterans last night, Comrade L. J. Webb, of Topeka, mustering officer, twenty-four recruits were mustered.

Sterling Bulletin: About \$300 has been subscribed toward starting a new band under the auspices of Meade post, of the Grand Army. It will be a good plan for the post to have a band of its own.

Bea: The proposal to try and erect a G. A. R. monument in the Frankfort cemetery, is very favorably received, and will undoubtedly be carried out. Such a monument would be an honor to the town.

Arlington (Rice county) Enterprise: John Guyer, a veteran of the late unpleasantness, received a reward for injuries received amounting to about \$1,100. He is a member of the G. A. R. post of this city.

The managers of the soldiers' reunion to be held at Hiawatha in September have secured 300 tents from the state for the accommodation of the veterans who may be in attendance. Gov. Martin will be present and deliver an address.

Lyon post No. 9, of Marysville held an open meeting a few evenings ago and a very enjoyable time was had. The sum of \$120 was donated the post by the "Home Dramatic" company of Marysville who have given several entertainments for the benefit of the post.

The grand army post at Medicine Lodge, Barber county is being reorganized. The crest of that place says: "There are enough old soldiers here to have a flourishing post if they will take hold in earnest. Keep the camp fires burning boys."

Osborne Farmer: A soldiers' reunion will be held at Osborne on July 24th and 25th. Governor Martin and other distinguished speakers will be present and address the veterans. A committee of 21, a representative being chosen for each township in the county, has been set to work, and the result will undoubtedly be the biggest turnout of the boys in blue that Osborne has ever seen.

Seneca Tribune: W. P. Harrison, who belongs to the G. A. R. post here, and William Leibig, who is a member of the Wetmore post, served in the same brigade all through the war, and were in sixteen different battles together, but never knew it until recently. It was quite a discovery for the two old veterans, and they spent nearly a day talking over old times and war incidents.

Wichita Eagle: Gen. M. Stewart, department commander, Col. L. N. Woodcock, assistant adjutant general, Col. Jesse Ask, inspector general, Col. Murray Myers, assistant quartermaster general, Col. H. D. Heisterman, commander of Garfield post, Adjutant John A. Walcott, Major John Fisher and Major B. H. Downing and other local members of the G. A. R. mustered in a post at Clearwater, this county the other evening.

Atchison Patriot: For nearly a year past a man named Humphreys, about sixty years old, has occupied a small cabin about a mile south of East Atchison. Where he came from no one knew, nor was it known that he had any relatives. He had been a soldier during the war, and claimed that he was entitled to a pension, and lived by peddling books and the charity of the neighbors. One day last week he was found lying in bed dead. There was nothing to indicate the cause of death, but it probably resulted from heart disease. Justice Connors held an inquest on the body, but reached no facts. It was a sad death—old, friendless and alone in the world. The citizens saw that the remains were properly interred.

KANSAS CHURCHES.

Items of Interest Concerning Them.

The Presbyterian church of Hutchinson had ten accessions last week.

The Baptists of Manhattan talk of building a parsonage for their pastor.

The Bethel Methodist church has been organized at Ellsworth.

A new African Methodist church was dedicated at Topeka a few Sundays ago.

A Methodist Episcopal church has been established at Hazleton, Barber county.

The new house of worship of the Stafford Baptists was appropriately dedicated to the service of God a few Sundays ago.

Pratt Center Times: The contractors are hard at work on the new M. E. church and will have the frame up in a short time.

The sum of \$400 has been raised by the Methodist Episcopal church of North Lawrence, which entirely clears off their debt.

The "Friendship Baptist church" of Lake township, Harvey county, filed its charter with the secretary of state a few days ago.

The Christian church of Topeka is putting forth strenuous efforts to build a church. At a recent meeting \$7,000 was subscribed.

The "Spring Branch of the Methodist Episcopal church" of Rooks county, filed its charter with the secretary of state a few days ago.

The Women's Foreign Missionary society of the M. E. church, Clay Center district, met in Washington last week and elected officers.

The "Miles Chapel of the Colored Methodist Episcopal church," is the name of a new church which has just been established at Emporia.

Avilla Citizen: The Christian church are talking of erecting a church edifice in this city. This is an enterprise we are all interested in and hope to see it succeed.

A new Methodist Episcopal church was dedicated at Aliceville, Anderson county, a few days ago by Rev. C. W. Gullett, pastor of the same church at Ottawa.

At a meeting of the trustees of the Methodist Episcopal church of Coldwater, Comanche county, they decided to build a church. It will be 30x40 in size with a gallery.

Wellington offered as an inducement for the Methodist college to be erected at that city, \$41,300 in cash and 50 acres of land worth at least calculation \$5,000 more.

Fredonia Citizen: The Dunkards, or German Baptists, of Fredonia and vicinity, have purchased lots in Hamilton's addition and propose to erect a church in the near future.

Abilene Gazette: At the Episcopal church a few evenings ago, the bishop confirmed three persons, making his usual beautiful and appropriate remarks. Rev. Mr. Lee of Manhattan, addressed the congregation, giving a short history of his first church work in Abilene, when he and Father Dooley, of sainted memory, used to hold services here. He congratulated them on their success in erecting so neat a house for the worship of God.

A West Virginia office-seeker, having spent his last nickel waiting for something to turn up, stole a bicycle and wheeled homeward Sunday from Washington.

Chicken cholera is prevailing at Coolidge in the western part of the state. One man lost 200 in one night. They just fell off the roost.

DISTRICT ADOPTION OF SCHOOL BOOKS THE SAFEST AND BEST PLAN.

Topeka Commonwealth.

The passage of a law by our last legislature permitting, but not compelling county adoptions of school text-books, leaves considerable room for reflection, as to whether this method of adopting books is really advantageous to the people. We purposely say to the people, for they stand the expense of school books. Admitting that there is a strong feeling for county uniformity among teachers, and their theoretical motives to be perfectly honest, we cannot lose sight of the fact that their pockets are not affected by a change of books. It was therefore a wise act which left the decision of county uniformity with the people, and it now remains to be seen whether the people really want it. When one looks around upon the districts of this state, and sees them satisfied with their district uniformity of books, it would seem that most extraordinary advantages must be shown before they will give up the privilege of selecting their own books and entrust to outsiders that which their own district officers have heretofore done so well. The people will think twice before they vote away the privilege and right of their district board to a county board, in which their districts may not even have a whole single vote.

County uniformity of school books means great expense to some one. This expense will fall upon some districts in each county; others will get away not free. It savors strongly of a lottery, with tails you win, heads I lose. For why? Because in every county in this state, it is fair to presume that under our present district uniformity there are several series of books in uniform use in the different districts. To make all the books uniform to even the books in majority use would entail a large expense upon the districts which did not happen to use the books adopted, all of which would be avoided by the retention of the present district system. Every district has its own preference of books. To abandon this preference to other districts, whose judgment of choice may perhaps be no better, and who certainly do not know our requirements as well as we know them ourselves, looks very much like giving up a good thing, which we know to be good, for something of whose goodness we know little, and that is a rather doubtful thing.

It appears then that districts with a uniformity of books in use in their schools will be very loth to run the risk of being obliged to change them all out, for the sake of a county uniformity of books which may not suit them half as well, and still less will be disposed to vote away their present right and power to select their own books to a body of men who may adopt a series entirely at variance with the ideas of these districts and which may not be half as well adapted to the requirements of the schools as those now in use. Again in our humble opinion, the persons principally interested in this new book scheme are book agents and publishers. Why is it necessary, in the face of the fact that our schools have no reason to complain of their present status quo so far as regards text-books, that the state should be again overrun with the war-whoop of the book agents, and permit them to put our people to thousands of dollars of unnecessary expense?

Union Pacific Railroad Matters.

Washington, June 18.—It was announced on the 1st of June at the Court of Claims, that judgment in the Union Pacific railway case would be entered, in accordance with the opinion made by experts, pursuant to the opinion of the court, previously rendered and that the competitor which had then just been completed, showed an indebtedness of something over \$1,250,000. Only 394 miles, comprising the subsidized portion of the Kansas Pacific branch were involved in the case. The remaining 235 miles of that part of the Union Pacific system being non-subsidized and thus exempt from claims of the government.

The earnings of the Kansas Pacific branch has, however, been kept account of only as a whole and the court decided as a means of ascertaining the amount due the government at 5 per cent. of the net earnings of the subsidizing portion, that the earnings of the whole branch should contemplate that rate upon the mileage basis, subsequent to the announcement of June 1. The Attorney General asked the court to suspend the entry of judgment, so as to enable the government to consider whether it would accept the ruling of the Court of Claims in respect to the basis upon which the Kansas Pacific Department was to be computed.

It having been suggested that the actual earnings of the subsidized road were proportionately greater than those of any other part, and that if the actual earnings could be ascertained the Government would be a gainer. Pursuant to the request the entry of judgment was suspended.

The agents of the Department of Justice and of the Interior Department have since investigated the subject thoroughly and the conclusion has been reached to make no further contest over this question. This conclusion having been communicated to the court the judgment has to-day been entered in accordance with the opinion previously announced. The judgment is in favor of the Government for the sum of \$1,567,608. Pending the trial of this case the agents of the government and of the Union Pacific entered together upon an investigation of the accounts to ascertain the indebtedness of the road under the Thurman act and on account of the 5 per cent. of the net earnings which the company was required under the acts of 1862 and 1864 to pay into the United States Treasury. They reached the conclusion that there was due from the company \$917,000, which sum was paid into the Treasury and it now stands as a partial offset to the judgment of the court. It is also stated that there is due the company on account of the earnings of various branch roads, not included in the litigation and on various other accounts of minor importance, sums which, with the amount already paid in, will leave a balance of probably not more than \$100,000 due the government upon the judgment of the court. This case was begun more than five years ago.

Salina Journal: The best yield of wheat in Salina county this year, is in the western and northwestern part of the county. Some of the farmers in the sections talk of having as high as twenty bushels to the acre.

TIN SHOP.

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REFERENCES—F. O. Ellsworth, S. T. Bartlett, S. P. Bartlett, R. Hacker, A. C. Frick, W. R. Mead, Thomas Caddick, of Wa-Keeney; Samuel Bowman, two mills; Thomas Moore, and a 16-foot geared mill for Thomas Hindman, of Grantfield, and George B. Henn and John Collins, a grain county. The above list is a part of the mills I have sold and put up in the last year. I take manufacture and repair all kinds of tinware and fit up pumps and gas and water pipe.

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How to Save a Postage Stamp.

Two men stood near a little box in Broadway disputing about a sealed letter which one of them held in his hand. The letter had been posted at an office in Virginia and a carrier had delivered it at an up-town address. In the meantime the person to whom the letter was addressed had left the city. The original address had been erased and one in a distant town wrote below it.

"You will have to put another stamp on it," said the stout of the two men to the one who held the letter.

"That's possible, but my wife told me I only needed to drop it into a box. She ought to know about such things, because she mails lots of letters that come to the house."

"Why didn't she look after this one, then?"

"Because she wanted it sent from down town so that it would go out quicker."

"Well, if you post it without another stamp it will not go at all. Women don't know about such things."

A letter-carrier approached the box at that moment and an appeal was made to him. He glanced at the envelope and said: "That needs another stamp, because it is not a city letter. If it were going to another part of the city the old stamp would carry it."

"Do you mean to say that this letter would be detained at the office for postage?"

"Well, perhaps they would send it and charge the extra postage at the other end of the line. You had better see the station agent about it."

"There," said the stout man after the carrier had walked away, "you see now how much your wife knew about it."

"Come on to the station and if she is wrong I will pay for two cigars."

They went to station A and the letter was shown to the agent there. "That's all right," was his curt comment.

"But a carrier just told me it would need another stamp because it is going out of the city again."

"The law used to be that way," the agent said, "but it has been changed, and every carrier ought to know it. Now a letter can be remailed as often as necessary within the United States to get it to the owner, without extra postage. The only limit is the number of changes that can be made in addresses on the face of the envelope."

A City of Workshops.

Northampton (England) Correspondence of the San Francisco Chronicle.

An air of boots and shoes pervades the whole town. The bulk of the work is done in the mean cottages of the operatives, and this conversion of the home into a workshop destroys entirely homelikeness. The frame of the small front door on either side has a black, greasy patch, caused by the constant rubbing of the strings of shoes and facets of uppers that are carried in and out of the house in the course of a year. The door itself has a similar blackened appearance, and oftentimes the wall of the front room. These, together with the constant tapping, as of some one making coffins, are the signs of the half workshop, half homes, of Northampton shoemakers. On the afternoon of any day just preceding a day of rest or a national holiday, the working population seem to be carrying boots and shoes of all kinds and in all conditions, from the stocks of soleless uppers to the bag or bundle of finished shoes. Pale, unshaven men, with short clay pipes, smeared faces and smudgy aprons, hasten to the factory with strings of boots ready for the finisher. Nor is the Northamptonshire shoemaker above making a beast of burden of his wife. Women may be seen in any direction struggling with immense bundles and baskets of boots and shoes—likewise the boys and girls. It must not be supposed that this industry is carried on in Northampton the same as with us. The factory system is to-day less in favor than ever. "And why?" I asked Mr. Munfield, one of the largest firms in town. "Because," was the prompt reply, "we can manufacture cheaper by giving out the work and having it done at the homes of the men." Many of the largest firms merely do the cutting of the uppers and soles on the premises, the closing, making and finishing being all done off the premises.

Lowville Republican: There are a few fields of wheat in this vicinity, that will not yield twenty bushels per acre, notwithstanding the many prophecies tending to make the cereals a failure this year.

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